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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Norman William MacLeod  
Serial No: 09/581,978  
Confirmation No: 6678  
Filed: June 20, 2000  
For: MANUFACTURE OF FOOTWEAR

Examiner: Edmund H. Lee  
Art Unit: 1732

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**MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF  
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed after the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311 and is being filed on or before payment of an Issue Fee.

The Applicant hereby states, as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart for this application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

The IDS processing fee of \$180.00 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is enclosed.

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PART II: Compliance with 37 CFR §1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by the office of the undersigned more than 30 days prior to filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART III: Information Cited

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

The Applicant hereby makes the following additional information of record in the above-identified application:

The Examiner's attention is directed to the enclosed European Search Report for European Application No. EP 98 96 0927, which is a counterpart to the above-identified application.

PART IV: Explanation of Non-English Language References and Remarks Concerning Other Information Cited

The following is a concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified):

As indicated in the enclosed European Search Report for European Application No. EP 98 96 0927, the European Patent Office categorizes FR 1 390 965 as an "X" reference (particularly relevant if taken alone) relative to European claims. The relevance, if any, of FR 1 390 965 may be further gleaned by its enclosed U.S. equivalent, U.S. Patent No. 3,199,149.

PART V: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;

2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;

3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

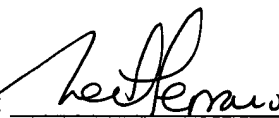
By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

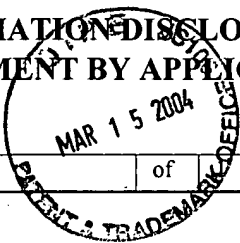
An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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Docket No. P0557.70030US00  
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**X03/17/04X**

FORM PTO-1449/A and B (Modified)		APPLICATION NO.: 09/581,978	ATTY. DOCKET NO.: P0557.70030US00
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		FILING DATE: August 21, 2000	CONFIRMATION NO.: 6678
		APPLICANT: Norman William MacLeod	
		GROUP ART UNIT: 1732	EXAMINER: Edmund H. Lee
Sheet	1	of	



#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or of issue of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code		
		3,199,149		Croyle	08/10/1965

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document (not necessary)	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Translation (Y/N)
		Office/ Country	Number	Kind Code			
		FR	1,390,965		American Research and Development Co.	12/31/1963	N
		GB	688,879		DeCraecker	03/18/1953	

#### OTHER ART — NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS) title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, relevant page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation (Y/N)	
		European Search Report for European Application No. EP 98 96 0927 (3 pages)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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#EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

\*a copy of this reference is not provided as it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, Serial No. \_\_, filed \_\_, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications).

[NOTE - Must provide a copy of any patent, publication, other information listed, even if it was previously submitted to, or cited by, the U.S. Patent Office in an earlier application, unless the earlier application is identified by the IDS and is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120, and the copy was provided in the earlier application.]